

Message Text

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13

ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 OMB-01 ACDA-19 DRC-01 SAM-01 /128 W

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R 120500Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2156

INFO USINT ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS AMMAN 4659

GENEVA FOR MEPC DEL

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, JO, IS, XF

SUBJ: JORDANIAN PRESS ON JORDANIAN-ISRAELI DISENGAGEMENT

1. SUMMARY. JORDANIAN PRESS HAS DEVOTED SIGNIFICANT COVERAGE DURING RECENT DAYS TO MIDEAST ISSUES IN KING HUSSEIN'S CANADA VISIT AND PM RIFAI'S DISCUSSIONS IN WASHINGTON, GIVINT PARTICULAR EMPHASIS TO ISRAELI-JORDANIAN DISENGAGEMENT QUESTION. END SUMMARY.

2. PRESS CARRIED FULL COVERAGE OF KING HUSSEIN'S OTTAWA PRESS CONFERENCE IN WHICH KING REITERATED JORDAN WOULD NOT GO TO GENEVA WITHOUT SEPARATION OF FORCES AGREEMENT AND DESCRIBED PLAN AS STIPULATING ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL TO A CERTAIN DISTANCE FROM
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JORDAN RIVER AS WELL AS FROM MAJOR PART OF

NORTHERN DEAD SEA AREA.

3. PRIME MINISTER RIFAI'S AUG 8 PRESS CONFERENCE ALSO CARRIED AT LENGTH. RIFAI QUOTED AS RULING OUT ISRAELI PROPOSALS GIVING JORDAN CIVIL ADMINISTRATION OVER SOME WEST BANK CITIES WHILE ISRAELI FORCES REMAIN IN THE AREA. PRESS REPORTED RIFAI STATED JORDANIAN PROPOSAL FOR ISRAELI PULLBACK TO 12 KILOMETERS FROM JORDAN RIVER IS STILL VALID AND SUITABLE AS A BASIS FOR CONVERSATIONS.

4. RIFAI ALSO QUOTED AS RE-AFFIRMING THAT GOJ REPRESENTS ALL PALESTINIANS ON EAST AND WEST BANKS WHILE PLO REPRESENTS PALESTINIANS IN OTHER REGIONS; BUT IF ARAB STATES DECIDE PLO ALSO REPRESENTS WEST BANK, THEN JORDAN WILL REFRAIN FROM PARTICIPATION IN GENEVA CONFERENCE. ACCORDING TO PRESS, RIFAI STATED HE HAD NOT READ GOE FONMIN FAHMY STATEMENT STATING PLO MUST ALSO REPRESENT WEST BANK PALESTINIANS, BUT ADDED THAT IF STATEMENT IN FACT DOES SO IT IS CONTRARY TO HUSSEIN-SADAT COMMUNIQUE.

5. JORDANIAN DAILY AL DUSTOUR AUG 10 QUOTED JERUSALEM POST ARAB AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT THAT DR. KISSINGER WILL COMMUNICATE TO ISRAEL A JORDANIAN PLAN FOR DISENGAGEMENT CALLING FOR AN ISRAELI PULLBACK OF ITS FORCES TO A 10-12 KILOMETER DISTANCE TO THE WEST OF JORDAN RIVER. PAPER ALLEGES PLAN WAS DRAFTED DURING KISSINGER-RIFAI DISCUSSIONS AND IS ONE OF FUNDAMENTAL GOJ CONDITIONS FOR PARTICIPATING IN GENEVA TALKS. JERUSALEM POST ARTICLE CONCLUDED THAT KISSINGER AWAITING ISRAELI REACTION TO COMMUNIQUE TO KING HUSSEIN WHEN KING ARRIVES IN WASHINGTON FOR TALKS NEXT WEEK.

6. IN SEPARATE ITEM, OFFICIAL JORDANIAN DAILY AR RAI HEADLINED THAT KING HUSSEIN WOULD BE FIRST LEADER TO MEET PRESIDENT FORD. NEWSPAPERS ALSO REPORTED KING HUSSEIN STATEMENT IN CANADA THAT HE DOES NOT EXPECT ANY FUNDAMENTAL CHANGES
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IN US MIDEAST POLICY UNDER PRESIDENT FORD. SUDDARTH

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